CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A wireless network component configured for being mounted to a fluorescent light comprising:

a housing containing the wireless network component; and

attachment means for attaching the housing to a fluorescent lamp, wherein the fluorescent lamp can be installed within a fluorescent light fixture.

2. The wireless network component of claim 1, wherein the attachment means comprises a support tube configured to be removably attached to at least a portion of the housing; and

wherein the support tube fits over the fluorescent lamp and attaches to the housing such that the housing is attached to the fluorescent lamp.

3. The wireless network component of claim 2, wherein the housing is suspended below the fluorescent lamp when the fluorescent lamp is installed within the fluorescent light fixture.

4. The wireless network component of claim 2, wherein support tube includes joints that are designed to fit within corresponding grooves on the housing.

5. The wireless network component of claim 2, wherein at least a portion of the support tube is at least partially transparent.

6. The wireless network component of claim 2, wherein the support tube is designed to dissipate heat generated by the fluorescent lamp.

7. The wireless network component of claim 6, wherein the support tube includes one or more vents to dissipate the heat.

8. The wireless network component of claim 2, wherein the support tube is generally semi-cylindrical in shape.

9. The wireless network component of claim 2, wherein the support tube is generally cylindrical in shape.

10. The wireless network component of claim 9, wherein the support tube is configured to be opened in order to insert the fluorescent lamp therein.

11. The wireless network component of claim 1, wherein the housing includes a recess channel for receiving the fluorescent lamp.

12. The wireless network component of claim 1, wherein the housing includes a window to allow light emitted by the fluorescent lamp to pass through the housing.

13. A wireless network component configured for being mounted to a fluorescent lamp comprising:

a housing containing the wireless network component;

a support tube configured to be removably attached to at least a portion of the housing; and

wherein the support tube fits over a fluorescent lamp and attaches to the housing so as to attach the housing to the fluorescent lamp.

14. The wireless network component of claim 13, wherein the housing is suspended below the fluorescent lamp when the fluorescent lamp is installed within a fluorescent light fixture.

15. The wireless network component of claim 13, wherein support tube includes joints that are designed to fit within corresponding grooves on the housing.

16. The wireless network component of claim 13, wherein at least a portion of the support tube is at least partially transparent.

17. The wireless network component of claim 13, wherein the support tube includes one or more vents to dissipate heat generated by the fluorescent lamp.

18. The wireless network component of claim 13, wherein the shape of the support generally corresponds to the cross-sectional shape of the fluorescent lamp.

19. The wireless network component of claim 13, wherein the housing includes a recess channel for receiving the fluorescent lamp.

20. The wireless network component of claim 13, wherein the housing includes a window to allow light emitted by the fluorescent lamp to pass through the housing.

21. A wireless network component configured for being mounted to a fluorescent light comprising:

a housing containing the wireless network component;

one or more power coupling pin protruding from one side of the housing and configured to be inserted into a receptacle within a fluorescent light fixture that would otherwise receive one or more pin of a fluorescent lamp; and

one or more fluorescent lamp pin connector located on an opposite side of the housing and electrically connected to the one or more power coupling pin, wherein the one or more fluorescent lamp pin connector is configured to receive the one or more pin of the fluorescent lamp.

22. The wireless network component of claim 21, wherein the one or more fluorescent lamp pin connector is electrically connected to the one or more power coupling pin via a power converter internal to the housing.

23. The wireless network component of claim 22, wherein the power converter receives power from power source of the fluorescent light via the one or more power coupling pin; and

wherein the power converter supplies the power to the internal electronics of the wireless network component and to the fluorescent lamp pin connector.

24. The wireless network component of claim 21, wherein the one or more power coupling pin and the one or more fluorescent lamp pin connector are vertically offset relative to each other, such that the fluorescent lamp is installed at an angle relative to its intended axis within the fluorescent light fixture.

25. The wireless network component of claim 21, wherein the one or more power coupling pin and the one or more fluorescent lamp pin connector are horizontally offset from each other, such that the fluorescent lamp is installed at an angle relative to its intended axis within the fluorescent light fixture.

26. The wireless network component of claim 21, wherein at least a portion of the housing is at least partially transparent so that light from the fluorescent lamp can pass through the housing.

27. The wireless network component of claim 21, wherein the housing includes means for dissipating heat generated by the fluorescent light.

28. The wireless network component of claim 21, wherein the housing includes a recess channel for receiving the fluorescent lamp.

29. The wireless network component of claim 21, further comprising means for attaching the housing to the fluorescent lamp.

30. The wireless network component of claim 29, wherein the means for attaching the housing to the fluorescent lamp comprises a support tube configured to be removably attached to at least a portion of the housing; and

wherein the support tube fits over the fluorescent lamp and attaches to the housing so as to attach the housing to the fluorescent lamp.

31. A method for configuring a wireless network component for being mounted to a fluorescent light comprising:

containing the wireless network component within a housing; and

attaching the housing to a fluorescent lamp using a support tube that fits over the fluorescent lamp and attaches to the housing such that the housing is attached to the fluorescent lamp.

32. The method of claim 31, wherein the support tube is configured to be removably attached to at least a portion of the housing.

33. The method of 31, wherein the housing is suspended below the fluorescent lamp when the fluorescent lamp is installed within the fluorescent light fixture.

34. The method of claim 33, wherein support tube includes joints that are designed to fit within corresponding grooves on the housing.

35. The method of claim 31, wherein at least a portion of the support tube is at least partially transparent.

36. The method of claim 31, wherein the support tube is designed to dissipate heat generated by the fluorescent lamp.

37. The method of claim 36, wherein the support tube includes one or more vents to dissipate the heat.

38. The method of claim 31, wherein the support tube is generally semi-cylindrical in shape.

39. The method of claim 31, wherein the support tube is generally cylindrical in shape.

40. The method of claim 39, wherein the support tube is configured to be opened in order to insert the fluorescent lamp therein.

41. The method of claim 31, wherein the housing includes a recess channel for receiving the fluorescent lamp.

42. The method of claim 31, wherein the housing includes a window to allow light emitted by the fluorescent lamp to pass through the housing.